

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
NASHVILLE DIVISION**

BRIAN A., et al.)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	Civ. Act. No. 3:00-0445
)	Judge Todd J. Campbell
v.)	Magistrate Judge Joe B. Brown
)	
BILL HASLAM, et al.)	
)	
Defendants.)	

JOINT NOTICE OF FILING

Pursuant to the Notice as to the Role of the Technical Assistance Committee, dated November 9, 2012 (Dkt. No. 452), the Parties, by their undersigned counsel, give notice of the filing of a Supplemental Monitoring Report of the *Brian A.* Technical Assistance Committee, dated January 25, 2013, providing an additional update to the Court and the Parties on the status of the evaluation of TFACTS.

DATED: Nashville, Tennessee
 January 25, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

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**SUPPLEMENTAL MONITORING REPORT OF THE
BRIAN A. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE
January 25, 2013**

On December 28, 2012, the Technical Assistance Committee issued a Supplemental Report providing a status update on the progress being made in the TFACTS evaluation which the TAC has undertaken. That report included information on the composition and convening of the TFACTS Evaluation Team and some initial activities. This Supplemental Monitoring Report provides an additional update on developments subsequent to the filing of the December 28 Supplemental Report.

John Ducoff, the consultant retained by the TAC to lead the Evaluation Team, has completed his second on-site visit and continues to receive and review materials that he has requested based on both his first and second site visits and discussions with plaintiffs' IT expert.

The Mega Report and Chapin Hall data reviews discussed in the previous report are nearing completion. The reviews are focused on two key questions: (1) whether there are any concerns about the ability of case managers to enter accurate data into the specific case file fields that the Mega Report and Chapin Hall extract are intended to draw from, and (2) whether the Mega Report and Chapin Hall extracts are accurately drawing and compiling the data from the relevant fields. Nothing in either review thus far has indicated any reason to believe that there is a data accuracy problem with the particular TFACTS case file fields upon which the monitoring findings in the June 2012 monitoring report relied nor has the review found any reason to believe that the way in which the information from these particular case file fields is extracted into the Mega Report and Chapin Hall data extract results in a discrepancy between the information in the individual TFACTS case file field and the information for that child in the Mega report or Chapin Hall extract.

At the same time that the TAC is completing its validation of the Chapin Hall and Mega Report data that it has relied on in the last monitoring report, the TAC is undertaking a review of newly developed TFACTS reports that were not available for inclusion in the last monitoring report. As with the Chapin Hall and Mega Report reviews, the TAC is examining the reliability of the data in the individual TFACTS case file, the way in which that data are extracted and aggregated, and the extent to which there is any discrepancy between data in the individual case file and in the individual case detail upon which the aggregate report is built. That review is ongoing.

The TAC is well into the Case Manager Survey and expects to have all of the randomly selected case managers interviewed by February 10 and the data from those surveys compiled and analyzed by February 17.

With respect to team composition, the TAC has continued its effort to identify an appropriate consultant with special expertise to help examine some of the technical issues related to the Department's current capacity to work with Java code in general and with the Optimal J tool in particular. John Ducoff has had discussions with a number of potential consultants and is continuing to follow up with those and other experts.

Simultaneous with the TAC's review, the Department, pursuant to the recommendations of the Comptroller's Audit, has contracted for an Independent Verification and Validation (IVV) review of the TFACTS system. The TAC Evaluation Team reviewed and provided input into the scope of work for that review. The vendor has submitted a document describing in detail the scope of work. The Department has chosen what the TAC believes to be a very highly qualified vendor. Because the scope of the IVV review includes a focus on Optimal J, the TAC believes that it makes sense to wait until the IVV review is completed before formally engaging its own "Optimal J" expert. Once the Evaluation Team has reviewed the findings of the IVV review related to the Optimal J issues, the Evaluation Team will decide what further expert work is necessary to inform its evaluation and can then target the work of the Team's expert consultant accordingly.

The timeline for the IVV review contemplates completion of the review toward the end of March. We are confident that the work of the TAC Evaluation Team, other than the technical expert review of the Optimal J issues, will be completed by then. It may be, depending on what additional "Optimal J" related work the Evaluation Team feels is warranted after reviewing the IVV findings, that the Evaluation Team would need some time to complete that follow up and if that were the to be the case, we might seek additional time, beyond the present April 4 deadline, to finalize our report.

The TAC's TFACTS Evaluation is proceeding according to plan and it is benefiting from the cooperation and responsiveness of the parties and their shared interest in and support for an objective and comprehensive review.